IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Currently Amended) A playback device for executing playback of video composed of a plurality of frame images, comprising:

a read unit operable to read a video stream from a recording medium;

a frame memory;

a video decoder operable to decode the video stream so as to sequentially obtain and write the frame images on the frame memory;

an output unit operable to generate a video signal from the frame images sequentially written on the frame memory and output the video signal;

a setup unit operable to accept a user operation to allow addition of supplemental information to the video signal;

an output control unit operable, ~~in accordance with a user operation,~~ to cause the output unit to output the video signal with the addition of the supplemental information when the user operation allows the addition; and

an assigning unit operable to assign[[,]] copy control information to the video signal ~~added~~ output with the addition of the supplemental information, the copy control information defining a less strict restriction ~~as compared with~~ than another copy control information to be assigned to the video signal output without the addition of the supplemental information.

7.   (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 6, wherein

the copy control information indicate one of a Copy Free status, an Only One

Copy status, and an Never Copy status, and

restrictions imposed by the respective statuses in an increasing order are the Copy

Free status, the Only One Copy status, and the Never Copy.

8.   (Original) The playback device according to Claim 6, wherein

the recording medium is a portable recording medium,

the playback device further comprises:

a built-in recording medium storing a supplemental information stream,

the read unit is further operable to read the supplemental information stream from

the built-in recording medium,

the playback device further comprises:

a supplemental information decoder operable to decode the supplemental

information stream, and

the supplemental information is an image obtained by decoding the supplemental

information stream.

9.   (Currently Amended) The playback device according to Claim 8, wherein

the built-in recording medium stores multi-path information binding the

supplemental information stream to a section of the video stream on the portable medium, and

the output [[of]] control unit causes the video signal to be output with the addition

of the supplemental information by the output control unit is performed when a current playback

point reaches the section.

10.   (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 9, wherein

the multi-path information binds the supplemental information stream to the plurality of sections of the video stream.

11.   (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 6, wherein

the recording medium stores locator information specifying an address on a network,

the playback device further comprises:

a download unit operable to download a supplemental information stream from a server located at the address specified by the locator information; and

a supplemental information decoder operable to decode the supplemental information stream downloaded, and

the supplemental information is an image obtained by decoding the supplemental information stream.

12.   (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 11, wherein

the download unit is operable to transmit a medium identifier to the server when accessing the server, and receive copy control information encrypted using the medium identifier from the server, and

the copy control information assigned by the assigning unit is obtained by decrypting the encrypted copy control information using the medium identifier.

13.   (Withdrawn) The playback device according to Claim 12, wherein

the download unit is operable to transmit a maker identifier or a model number of the playback device to the server when accessing the server.

14.   (Currently Amended) A <u>computer-readable recording medium comprising a program recorded thereon, the</u> program for causing a computer to execute playback of video composed of a plurality of frame images, <u>the program</u> comprising code operable to cause the computer to perform <u>the steps of</u>:

5   [[a]] reading ~~step of reading~~ a video stream from a recording medium;

[[a]] decoding ~~step of decoding~~ the video stream so as to sequentially obtain and write the frame images on a frame memory of the computer;

~~an output step of~~ generating a video signal from the frame images sequentially written on the frame memory ~~and outputting the video signal~~;

10   <u>accepting a user operation to allow addition of supplemental information to the video signal;</u>

~~an output control step of~~ controlling <u>and outputting</u> ~~the output step so that~~ the video signal ~~is caused, in accordance with a user operation, to be output~~ with <u>the</u> addition of the supplemental information <u>when the user operation allows the addition</u>; and

15   ~~an assigning step of~~ assigning[[,]] <u>copy control information</u> to the video signal ~~added~~ <u>output</u> with the <u>addition of the</u> supplemental information, <u>the</u> copy control information defining a less strict restriction ~~as compared with~~ <u>than another</u> copy control information to be assigned to the video signal output without addition of the supplemental information.

15.   (Currently Amended) A playback method for executing playback of video composed of a plurality of frame images; comprising ~~the steps of~~<u>the steps of</u>:

    ~~a reading step of~~ reading a video stream from a recording medium;

    ~~a decoding step of~~ decoding the video stream so as to sequentially obtain and write the frame images on a frame memory of a computer;

    ~~an output step of~~ generating a video signal from the frame images sequentially written on the frame memory ~~and outputting the video signal~~;

    ~~an output control step of controlling the output step so that~~ <u>controlling and outputting</u> the video signal ~~is caused, in accordance with a user operation, to be output~~ with <u>the</u> addition of the supplemental information <u>when the user operation allows the addition</u>; and

    ~~an assigning step of~~ assigning[[,]] <u>copy control information</u> to the video signal ~~added~~ <u>output</u> with the <u>addition of the</u> supplemental information, <u>the</u> copy control information defining a less strict restriction ~~as compared with~~ <u>than another</u> copy control information to be assigned to the video signal output without <u>the</u> addition of the supplemental information.